

Departed Masters

Victor Venegas



Victor Venegas, elder statesman of the Latin bass for more than 50 years began his illustrious career on the south side of Chicago where his family had settled after leaving Durango Mexico. Inspired by the great blues tradition of the big bands that made their way through the city, Victor began playing the bass at...

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Johnny Polanco



Johnny Polanco was born in the South Bronx, New York, to Dominican and Puerto Rican parents who loved the music of the Caribbean, especially Puerto Rican, Cuban and Dominican rhythms. He grew up listening to Tito Puente, Tito Rodriguez, Machito,

Cortijo y su Combo and traditional trio music from Los Panchos and Johnny Albino. Johnny...

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Mike Collazo



I know of no other timbale player that has worked with as many significant bands as Mike Collazo has. At the age of 14, Mike began studying with Ubaldo Nieto, the timbale player with the Machito Orchestra. Mike attended New York City High School, School of Industrial Design along with musicians, Orlando Marin and Joe...

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